mitigated. There should be a proper dicussion with the leaders of the employees' organisation so that this issue could be settled. The people in Kerala are facing problems. The pensioners and other people who are regularly in touch with the AG's Office are facing a lot of problems. So, I humbly request the Union Government to interfere in this issue and solve the problems which are faced in the AG's Office by the employees.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on this issue, there was an all-India agreement in 1992, and that agreement should be implemented. Twelve years have passed, the issue of stagnation was accepted and the promotions were due for half of the employees. I want to know from the Government why they are not implementing the agreement reached in 1992. For the last one month, work-to-rule is going on. Now, an indefinite fast is also going on. The situation is worsening and all the employees of the Accountant-General's office, throughout Kerala, are on an agitational path.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want from the Central Government ?

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : The Central Government must intervene and implement the agreement reached in 1992. That is my demand.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, hailstorm, were reported from some areas. The crops of the peasants were damaged due to this and the Govt. of India have not provided a single penny as a compensation in this regard whereas Rajasthan Govt. is continuously extending help to them. So I request the Govt. of India to pay compensation to all those peasants whose crops were damaged. Normally the peasants refuse to accept the compensation cause of meagre amount. The stock of wheat lying in the F.C.I. is being rotted and the Govt. are not paying any attention towards It.

In the same way farmers of Haryana and Rajasthan are being given very less amount as compensation. I, therefore, demand that the rate of compensation should be raised and prescribed quota of wheat should be procured by the Government and farmers who have suffered losses due to hailstrom should be given compensation.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI (Mirzapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise an issue pertaining to my Parliamentary Constituency, Mirzapur. I had raised this issue earlier also. My area is facing acute shortage of drinking water. During summar season the level of ground water taken out from handpumps also goes down. Drinking water is distributed through tankers once In a day there and that too is distributed in a measured quantity like edible oil or ghee. In view of the Government's programme for providing drinking water facility to every area I request you to make arrangements for providig drinking water facility for those people also. This area also faces the shortage of water for irrigation, because check-dams have been constructed on local canals for providing water to the residents of Allahabad. When drought had struck there the Government and the officials were collecting revenue but the drought affected persons were not given compensation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would submit that the Government should provide drinking water to those people and compensation to drought affected persons. I thank you for giving me a chance to speak.....*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Please listen to me. I am going to say what you all wanted to say.....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are disturbing her. She wants to say something.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue regarding more participation of women in politics is debated in this House time and again. We talk of giving reservation to them, but we must also ponder over that those women who dare to enter politics are subjected to misbehaviour. How many more women will dare to enter into politics under such circumstances.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the women in Bihar who are active in politics there have been facing this ill-treatement. I, myself faced such an incident in January. I was slapped and arrested in false case. Recently 'Bihar Bandh' was organised on 3rd of this month. In this bandh, women Members of the BJP and Samata Party were given ill treatment. The extreme part of the sarees worn by of Kanchan Bala and Madhu of Samata Party and several women workers of the BJP were pulled, their arms were twisted and they were detained in the prison. The only woman legislator of the BJP in Bihar is Chandramukhi Devi. Her arm was twisted when she went out to organise the 'bandh'. She had to take shelter in an outlet of Khadi Gramodyog to save her honour. When her husband came forward to protect her his hand was broken. They also tried to set their car on fire.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in such circumstances, how many women will dare to enter politics and how many husbands and family members will permit them to do so. Is this House of the view that women taking part in politics should lose their honours and diginity ? If not, then the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should have been present here and he should have responded to the points raised here on such an important issue. You should create circumstances for increasing participation of women in politics. The Minister of Home Affairs should present a report before the House regarding such incidents.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make a submission that the battle of Mahabharata was fought over insult of a woman and now a days, a number of women are being insulted in Bihar. An incident bigger than Mahabharta can take place there. Sir, kindly direct, Home Minister to make a statement on this incident. The House should condemn the ill-treatment meted out to Chandramuki Devi a legislator .....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a serious matter and the Government should make a statement on it.....*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, some instructions should be given to the Government. At least